

Serial No.: 10/583,799

PU030326

Remarks

In view of the following discussion, the applicants submit that the claims now pending in the application are not anticipated under the provisions of 35 U. S. C. § 102, or obvious under the provisions of 35 U. S. C. § 103. Thus, the applicants believe that all of these claims are in allowable form.

REJECTIONS

A. 35 U. S. C. § 102

1. Claims 1-2 are not anticipated by Takahashi et al.

Claims 1-2 stand rejected under 35 U. S. C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takahashi et al. (U. S. Patent 5,626,411 issued May 6, 1997). The applicants submit that these claims are not anticipated by this reference.

Claims 1-2 relate to a projection system 100 (see, the specification at page 2, lines 19-20). The projection system 100 includes a plurality of displays 111A, 111B, 111C, 111D and a plurality of projectors 110A, 110B, 110C, 110D (see, FIG. 3 and the specification at page 2, lines 20-23). The plurality of displays 111A, 111B, 111C, 111D are arranged adjacent to each other such that a portion of adjacent displays overlap one another to form a seam 135, 137, 139 (see, FIG. 6 and the specification at page 2, line 32 to page 3, line 5). Each projector includes a lens 110A, 110B, 110C, 110D selected to reduce distortions at the seams 135, 137, 139 formed between adjacent edges (see, FIG. 6 and the specification at page 3, lines 6-23).

Takahashi et al. describes a projection display system (see, Takahashi et al. at column 1, lines 13-16). The projection display system includes a transparent flat plate 81, 82, 83 (see, Takahashi et al. at FIG. 22 and column 14, lines 59-60). The transparent flat plate 81, 82, 83 is movable to shift the optical

Serial No.: 10/583,799

PU030326

path of a projected image so that it aligns with an outside edge of the corresponding display region A (see, Takahashi et al. at FIG. 22 and column 15, lines 4-20).

Takahashi et al. does not describe or suggest a projection system including a plurality of displays and a plurality of projectors, wherein the plurality of displays are arranged adjacent to each other such that a portion of adjacent displays overlap one another to form a seam and each projector includes a lens selected to reduce distortions at the seams formed between adjacent edges. Rather, Takahashi et al. only teaches an image shifting arrangement to align projected images with an outside edge of a corresponding display region. Since, Takahashi et al. does not describe or suggest a projection system including a plurality of displays and a plurality of projectors, wherein the plurality of displays are arranged adjacent to each other such that a portion of adjacent displays overlap one another to form a seam and each projector includes a lens selected to reduce distortions at the seams formed between adjacent edges, claims 1-2 are patentable over Takahashi et al.

B. 35 U. S. C. § 103

1. Claims 3-4 are not unpatentable over Takahashi et al. in view of Blanchard

Claims 3-4 stand rejected under 35 U. S. C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. (U. S. Patent 5,626,411 issued May 6, 1997) in view of Blanchard (U. S. Patent 5,902,030 issued May 11, 1999). The applicants submit that these claims are not rendered obvious by the combination of these references.

Claims 3-4 relate to the projection system 100 of claim 1 (see, the specification at page 2, lines 19-20). The projection system 100 includes a plurality of displays 111A, 111B, 111C, 111D, a plurality of projectors 110A,

Serial No.: 10/583,799

PU030326

110B, 110C, 110D and mirrors 125 (see, FIG. 3 and the specification at page 2, lines 20-25). The plurality of displays 111A, 111B, 111C, 111D are arranged adjacent to each other such that a portion of adjacent displays overlap one another to form a seam 135, 137, 139 (see, FIG. 6 and the specification at page 2, line 32 to page 3, line 5). Each projector includes a lens 110A, 110B, 110C, 110D selected to reduce distortions at the seams 135, 137, 139 formed between adjacent edges (see, FIG. 6 and the specification at page 3, lines 6-23).

Takahashi et al. describes a projection display system (see, Takahashi et al. at column 1, lines 13-16). The projection display system includes a transparent flat plate 81, 82, 83 (see, Takahashi et al. at FIG. 22 and column 14, lines 59-60). The transparent flat plate 81, 82, 83 is movable to shift the optical path of a projected image so that it aligns with an outside edge of the corresponding display region A (see, Takahashi et al. at FIG. 22 and column 15, lines 4-20).

Takahashi et al. does not describe or suggest a projection system including a plurality of displays, a plurality of projectors and mirrors, wherein the plurality of displays are arranged adjacent to each other such that a portion of adjacent displays overlap one another to form a seam and each projector includes a lens selected to reduce distortions at the seams formed between adjacent edges. Rather, Takahashi et al. only teaches an image shifting arrangement to align projected images with an outside edge of a corresponding display region. Since, Takahashi et al. does not describe or suggest a projection system including a plurality of displays, a plurality of projectors and mirrors, wherein the plurality of displays are arranged adjacent to each other such that a portion of adjacent displays overlap one another to form a seam and each projector includes a lens selected to reduce distortions at the seams formed between adjacent edges, claims 3-4 are patentable over Takahashi et al.

Blanchard describes a projection display system (see, Blanchard at column 1, lines 7-10). The projection display system includes first and second reflectors 74, 76 for projecting images from first and second off-axis projectors

Serial No.: 10/583,799

PU030326

32, 34 toward a screen assembly 42 (see, Blanchard at FIG. 5 and column 9, lines 21-35).

Blanchard does not describe or suggest a projection system including a plurality of displays, a plurality of projectors and mirrors, wherein the plurality of displays are arranged adjacent to each other such that a portion of adjacent displays overlap one another to form a seam and each projector includes a lens selected to reduce distortions at the seams formed between adjacent edges. Rather, Blanchard only teaches a projection display system in which first and second reflectors project images from first and second off-axis projectors toward a screen assembly. Since, Blanchard does not describe or suggest a projection system including a plurality of displays, a plurality of projectors and mirrors, wherein the plurality of displays are arranged adjacent to each other such that a portion of adjacent displays overlap one another to form a seam and each projector includes a lens selected to reduce distortions at the seams formed between adjacent edges, claims 3-4 are patentable over Blanchard.

Furthermore, since Takahashi et al. only describes an image shifting arrangement to align projected images with an outside edge of a corresponding display region and Blanchard only describes a projection display system in which first and second reflectors project images from first and second off-axis projectors toward a screen assembly, the combination of these references does not describe or suggest applicant's arrangement recited in claims 3-4. In particular, claims 3-4 recite a projection system including a plurality of displays, a plurality of projectors and mirrors, wherein the plurality of displays are arranged adjacent to each other such that a portion of adjacent displays overlap one another to form a seam and each projector includes a lens selected to reduce distortions at the seams formed between adjacent edges. Thus, claims 3-4 are patentable over the combination of these references.

Serial No.: 10/583,799

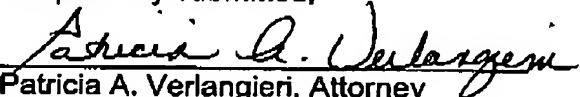
PU030326

CONCLUSION

Thus, the applicants submit that none of the claims, presently in the application are anticipated under the provisions of 35 U. S. C. § 102, or obvious under the provisions of 35 U. S. C. § 103. Consequently, the applicants believe that all of the claims are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring continuation of the adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Ms. Patricia A. Verlangieri, at (609) 734-6867, so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,


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